

REMARKS

Applicants thank Examiner Ashton for withdrawing the Final Rejection and entering the amendments filed November 22, 2005.

Claims 5, 7, 11-13 and 15 are pending in the present application.

Claims 1-4, 6, 8-10, 14 and 16-17 are canceled.

Claims 13 and 15 are allowed.

Claim 6 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer with this Amendment.

Claim 5 is amended to include the subject matter of canceled claim 6.

Claim 11 is amended to correct a typographical error. The term "former" in line two of the claim is corrected to "formers".

Claims 5, 7, 11 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. 5,563,023 to Kangas et al. in view of U.S. 4,232,106 to Iwasaki et al. and U.S. 4,552,830 to Reardon et al. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Independent claim 5 is amended to incorporate the subject matter of canceled claim 6. Accordingly, amended claim 5 is patentable over Kangas et al. in view of Iwasaki et al. and Reardon et al.

Claims 7, 11 and 12 depend directly or indirectly from claim 5. Accordingly, claims 7, 11 and 12 are patentable over the applied documents.

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 5, 7, 11 and 12 as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. 5,563,023 to Kangas et al. in view of U.S. 4,232,106 to Iwasaki et al. and U.S. 4,552,830 to Reardon et al.

Claim 6 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

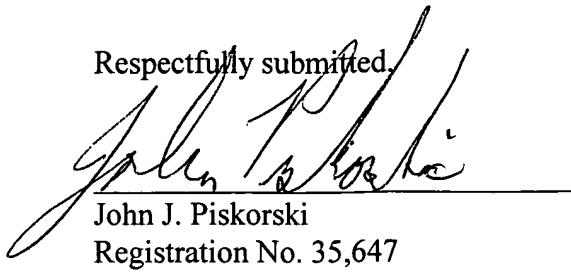
Claim 6 is canceled and the subject matter is incorporated into claim 5. Accordingly, the objection to claim 6 is moot.

Favorable consideration and allowance of all of the present pending claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning this response or this application, or should she believe this application is for any reason not yet in condition for allowance, she is

respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned at the number set forth below in order to expedite allowance of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John J. Piskorski".

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